



## CCM 2013 Testimony

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## **HOUSING COMMITTEE**

February 19, 2013

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities (CCM) is Connecticut's statewide association of towns and cities and the voice of local government - your partners in governing Connecticut. Our members represent over 92% of Connecticut's population. We appreciate the opportunity to testify on bills of interest to towns and cities.

CCM strongly supports <u>HB 5135 An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Impose Impact Fees on the</u> Development of Affordable Housing.

HB 5135 would represent a sound and reasonable approach to funding needed improvements and expansions to municipal infrastructure and services that result from the development of new affordable housing. This bill would authorize local planning and zoning commissions to impose impact fees on developers that would enable municipalities to help fund the cost of improvements to roads, utilities and the expansion of public safety services. These impact fees would reduce the burden on towns, cities and most importantly on local taxpayers.

CCM feels that it is reasonable to ask developers to pay impact fees in order to offset costs resulting from the need to build a new or expand an existing fire station that has been constructed to meet the needs of a new housing development.

HB 5315 would not slow the development of new housing in towns and cities throughout Connecticut. This bill would encourage more municipalities to consider the approval of new affordable housing developments because they would be offered a means to cover some portion of the costs that may result in the need for increased services resulting from these newly developed areas.

CCM strongly urges the Housing Committee to support <u>HB 5135 An Act Authorizing Municipalities to Impose</u> <u>Impact Fees on the Development of Affordable Housing</u>.



If you have any questions, please contact M. Randall Collins Jr., Senior Legislative Associate for CCM via email reollins@ccm-ct.org or via phone (860) 707-6446.